

He and I are Korean-war-era veterans. By our birth date, we missed the combat in Korea but we did not miss the combat here. Mr. Speaker, your two decades here set the stage, I think, for the Republicans to take the House on November 8, 1994, and probably to retain it about 36 days from now. Please keep coming back and keep us on the straight and narrow.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair thanks the gentleman from California.

#### SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of May 12, 1995, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina [Mr. COBLE] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. COBLE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois [Mrs. COLLINS] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mrs. COLLINS addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

#### HOUSE TO INSTITUTE RANDOM DRUG TESTING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New York [Mr. SOLOMON] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, there is something happening throughout this country which is so discouraging, and that is the escalating illegal drug use by Americans, particularly young Americans. We have seen the reports just recently that among 12- and 13-year-olds that illegal drug use is up by 137 percent over the last 4 years. In youth 14 and 15 years of age it is over 200 percent. It is a situation that seems to be getting worse and worse.

Now it is estimated that 75 percent of all the crime against women and children, the abuse of women and children, is drug-related. Mr. Speaker, that is just absolutely intolerable. Studies have shown in the past that 75 percent of all the drug use in America is used not by the inner core areas of the country where we seem to see all the killings taking place, but 75 percent of all the illegal drug purchases in America actually come from outside the inner core cities. It comes from the suburbs of our cities where even the upper-middle-class people are driving in, purchasing these drugs, taking them back and using them on a recreational weekend; and, Mr. Speaker, that is what props up the price of ille-

gal drugs in this country and that is why we have to make an all-out effort with everything that we can do in government to try to prevent this from happening.

That is why on the opening day of this Congress next year, I will be offering an amendment to the rules of the House which will require random drug testing of all Members of Congress, and of their staffs as well, both on the committee staffs and personal staffs. It is not because I think that there is any wide abuse by Members of Congress or even of their staffs with using illegal drugs but, Mr. Speaker, we have to help set the example for the rest of the country. Back in the early 1980's—1983 and 1984—President Reagan at the urging of myself and others implemented random drug testing in our military. At that time there was an estimated drug use of 25 percent by our active military personnel. Within several years of random drug testing, that average had dropped from 25 percent down to less than 4 percent, to what it is today. If we could lower that 4 percent throughout the entire Nation, what a difference that would make. That is why major corporations like the General Electric Co. and IBM and others have random drug testing of their employees.

We need to set the example in this Congress and make it a condition of employment that if they are going to work for the House of Representatives, that they are going to submit as a condition of their employment to random drug testing. That way there can be no violations. It simply is a question of their duty as a part of being paid to submit to the random drug testing. If we could do that, if we could do it throughout the Federal Government, and if we could do it at the State and the county and the town and village and city levels, just think what that would be with all those massive employees. And then if we could encourage the rest of the private sector to do the same thing, it would then become very unhip for people to be using drugs. If they knew they were going to go to a hockey game, a football game, a basketball game or to a cocktail party and people were going to turn up their noses at them when they were using these drugs recreationally, let me assure you they would soon stop doing it, especially if they thought that their good job was going to be affected.

Mr. Speaker, I wanted to call attention to the Members that that rule change will be taking place on January 3 when this Congress reconvenes. I thank the Speaker for his time. I also thank him for his leadership over all these years of helping me with legislation that we have implemented on the floor of this Congress dealing with this particular issue of illegal drugs.

□ 1415

#### LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

(Mr. HOYER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I take this time to proceed out of order for the purposes of asking something about the scheduling with the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. HASTERT], and the gentleman from New York [Mr. SOLOMON].

Mr. Speaker, because the chairman of the Committee on Rules is on the floor and Mr. HASTERT, another one of the leaders on your side of the aisle, I am very concerned that the Senate apparently has not yet passed the omnibus appropriation bill, or the CR, whatever we are calling the vehicle we are using to fund the balance of Government. The concern obviously is, as the chairman knows, the fiscal year ends in essentially 9 hours 45 minutes.

Can the gentlemen sort of enlighten us as to where the Senate might stand, what are the prospects of making sure we pass something by tonight, so that we do not put the Federal employees and the Federal Government to the test of shutting down and opening up?

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, if the gentleman will yield, let me say to the distinguished gentleman from Maryland, who is a strong defender of the Federal employees of this country, as well he should be, because 99 percent of them are good, loyal Americans and hard working people, and he should be concerned.

Let me just say I was about to pose the same question to him. As the gentleman knows, we constructed an unusual rule, an innovative rule, which sent over to the other body not only the omnibus appropriation conference report, taking care of all of the unfinished appropriation business, but at the urging of the other side of the aisle, the gentleman's side, we also sent a freestanding bill consisting of the exact language.

The reason for that was that there were Members that wanted to offer some amendments. As I understand it, and I talked to Mr. LOTT not too long ago, they are going to pursue that out of courtesy and fairness to the Democrat side of the aisle. Should any of those amendments I guess be enacted, I think they would pull that freestanding bill and then pass the conference report well before midnight tonight.

How long it is going to take to go through this amendment process, I do not know. In the meantime, as the gentleman knows, there are a number of other unfinished matters. Some are terribly important to some Members. We are operating under a unanimous-consent rule now. Those are being negotiated.

To answer the gentleman's question, I feel confident from my conversations with the other body that they are going to act on the final conference report before midnight tonight, which would solve the concerns of the gentleman from Maryland.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his answer. Obviously I think all of us believe that